

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KEMP) is recognized for 15 minutes.

[Mr. KEMP addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

LAND USE PLANNING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STEELMAN) is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. STEELMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing, together with Congressman UDALL, a new land use bill. The bill is quite similar to last year's bill reported by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, but we have made some changes in order to clarify and streamline the legislation. The bill still represents a State and local government approach to land use planning. The role of the Federal Government remains one of administrator of a grant program for the States. We have reduced the amount of money authorized for the grant program and have cut down on the number of required elements in State land use programs.

I wish to state to my colleagues that despite the obvious urgency of economic and energy legislation, I believe that the land use bill remains as one of the most important bills that will come before this Chamber this session. In the first place, the need to deal with problems of the effects of large-scale development, food and fiber supply, and protection of natural areas has not diminished regardless of the state of our economy.

Although in the middle of the storm of rhetoric about crude oil tariffs or rate of inflation it may seem that the environmental movement has lost its priority, I can tell you that, at the State and local level, it is gaining in strength. That is because, as we are sometimes prone to be blinded by the issue of the moment, our constituents keep focused on long-term problems, such as those the land use bill is designed to help solve.

Nevertheless, if I for the moment believed that either this country could not afford a land use bill at this time or that such legislation were inflationary or likely to be prohibitive of energy development in some way, I would be inclined to put the land use bill on the back burner for the time being. However, those of us who have been close to the legislation over the last few years know that precisely the opposite is true. The land use legislation we introduced last year and in somewhat different form this year is designed to introduce some badly needed rationality to major land use decisions in the States so that all people with an interest in such decisions are given the chance to participate in an open process. Our great desire and hope is that such an open process will put an end to expensive delays to necessary development as well as afford some protection for areas that really should be protected. In our new bill we explicitly include procedures requiring the

States to consider energy conservation in a land use program funded by our bill. Furthermore, we require that States develop methods to expedite processing of applications for development.

Our bill is balanced legislation designed to end lengthy procedures which only add cost to our market economy system. I urge my colleagues to study our new bill carefully. I am open to any and all comments on the legislation.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. HARRINGTON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

(Mr. HARRINGTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I will not use the entire 60 minutes I have requested because I did not realize that we would consume this much time with regular business.

I have taken this special order so as to address myself to the creation by this body of a select committee to provide an overview—which in my opinion is long overdue—of the intelligence community in this country.

First, I wish to express my appreciation for this favorable action. More importantly, however, I wish to raise the question of whether or not in the choice of its chairman, who formerly and presently exercises the chief oversight function that is usually associated with the House in dealing with the intelligence community, we have not, perhaps, fatally flawed the likelihood that this select committee will be successful.

Already, there is public skepticism in having Nelson Rockefeller, a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and thus clearly identified with the preexisting civilian review facet of the National Security Council, chairman of the so-called blue ribbon investigating committee. And, we see efforts made in the Senate on the part of the present chairman of the CIA Oversight Committee, Senator STENNIS, to, unsuccessfully, have himself continue in that function. I think that by the appointment of Congressman NEZBI to the chairmanship of the House Select Committee we have inevitably further contributed to the problem of skeptical public perception of how serious our intention is to conduct the careful, independent inquiry that is long overdue.

I think in having to overcome the awkwardness of not knowing whether we are going to have an effort to defend, legitimize, and rationalize the prior stewardship of the CIA Oversight Committee that is chaired by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. NEZBI) we have also created the most awkward of human relationships.

While I do not, for the moment, as I indicated to the gentleman in our conversation this noontime in explaining my intention to pursue this subject publicly, doubt Chairman NEZBI's sincerity

or good intentions, I think that the rec-ommittee in dealing with both foreign and domestic covert operations sneaks for itself.

It was not until repeated evidence became public, largely as the result of events which initiated outside that subcommittee resulted in a belated and overdue recognition of the need to undertake the more intensive that a select committee represents.

So, Mr. Speaker, I take the floor this afternoon to express my misgivings, which I have discussed previously with both the Speaker and Chairman NEZBI. I would suggest that these misgivings are shared by people who legitimately want to preserve the integrity of these institutions, but at the same time have some appreciation for the need for a select committee of both the House and Senate and to raise the question whether or not we will damage, in a fashion that may be difficult to repair, to the objectives which I think should be associated with the issue that is before the House and the Senate.

The Senate has very wisely chosen to bar from its Intelligence Select Committee those who had been closely identified with earlier oversight activities, including its oversight chairman, Senator STENNIS.

I only wish that the House had, in the selection of the chairman of the Select Committee, done likewise.

I think that this selection has contributed to the already pervasive public cynicism about the seriousness of Congress in this and many other endeavors. Criticism of Congress will continue to increase unless we demonstrate that we are not interested only in addressing the essential politics of the issues before us to avoid criticism.

It is for that reason that I think it appropriate and important, on the day following the announcement of the selection and the make-up of that committee, to at least raise this question and hope that it might be reflected upon in the conduct of the committee, in the use of its resources in its willingness to deal with the awkward situation and do what it can to overcome an unnecessarily imposed question as to whether it can fulfill its essential functions.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of my time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SYMMS. Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. SYMMS. It has just been brought to my attention that the House is going to be coming in at noon tomorrow. My parliamentary inquiry is, Can a unanimous-consent request be made that the House not come in until noon on Monday?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The leadership has already announced that we would be in session tomorrow at noon. That inquiry should be addressed more properly to the Speaker tomorrow.

Mr. SYMMS. I thank the Speaker.

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